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## GLEANINGS FROM AMERICAN ART CENTERS

It was determined recently, at a meeting of a sub-committee of the Senate and House Committees on the Library that the Brumidi frieze in the rotunda of the Capitol should be completed at an early date. The frieze is about 75 feet above the main floor of the Capitol, at the base of the dome. It depicts scenes in the history of the New World from the time of its discovery down to a period just prior to the Revolutionary War. It circles the dome, with the exception of about fifty feet of blank wall. The designs for the various scenes are the work of Brumidi, who started to execute them himself, but in 1880 he fell from his scaffolding and hung in a perilous position above the marble floor until rescued by a watchman. It is believed the strain resulting from this experience was responsible for his death, which occurred on February 4, 1880. Another artist, Fillipo Costaggan, tried to complete the work, until May, 1889, when the painting was suspended. Costaggan had crowded Brumidi's figures in order to make room for two scenes of his own. Congress would not accept the designs, and members have been unable to agree on any other scenes. Opposition developed to Civil War scenes or to a picture of President Cleveland opening the World's Fair at Chicago, which had been offered by Costaggan as the fruition of the discovery of the New World by Columbus, which is the first scene of the frieze. The joint committee directed Senator Wetmore and Representative McCreary, Chairman of the Committees on Library of the Senate and House, to go over the designs and report some plan for the completion of the work.

✱ The annual meeting of the Society of Washington Artists was held recently. Richard N. Brooke was elected president for the ensuing year, Miss Mathilde Mueden vice president, Mills Thompson secretary, and Robert Coleman Child treasurer; while on the executive committee were placed Miss Ellen Day Hale, Miss Bertha E. Perrie, Lucien Powell and Spencer B. Nichols, with Mr. Morse as chairman.

✱ The Jury of Awards at the Art Club, Philadelphia, consisting of Leslie W. Miller, chairman; Charles E. Dana, Henry J. Thouron, Benjamin Hawley and George K. Crozer, awarded the gold medal to Colin Campbell Cooper's exceedingly interesting picture of the St. Paul's Bridge at Parthenay, France. Mr. Cooper's position as an artist justifies the award of the medal. "The Shebane's Child," Mr. William Cotten, receives honorable mention.

✱ The Union League Club, Chicago, has purchased a number of canvases recently from local and other artists, among which may be mentioned "The Cloister Church of St. Francis at Assisi," by Julius Rohlshoven; "Martigues, France," a landscape, by F. Clay Bartlett; "In the Luxembourg Gardens," by Mabel Packard; "Mending Nets, Chioggia," by Oliver Dennett Grover, and "The Inner Cove," by Wilson H. Irvine.